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**Subject:** DHS/NOC: Senior Leadership Brief (Oil Platform Explosion - Gulf of Mexico) 1200 EDT 26 Apr 10  
**Date:** 04/26/2010 12:22 PM  
**Attachments:** [Senior Leadership Brief Oil Platform Explosion - Gulf of Mexico \(1200 EDT 26 Apr 10\).docx](#)

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Folks:

Please see below the latest DHS/NOC Senior Leadership Brief for the subject event. At this time, the HQ EOC will start to forward these reports to you for your situational awareness. As I understand it, these are produced twice per day.

In addition, we (HQ EOC) will utilize this same distribution group for the forwarding of other situational awareness reports (e.g., EPA specific, etc.) for our Senior Leadership (i.e., you).

Please let me know if you rather not be included in the distribution of these reports and/or if there's anyone else you would like for us (HQ EOC) to include in these distributions.

Note: General HQ EOC Special Situation Reports, when produced for this event, will be issued to our general distribution group.

Thanks,

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DHS Senior Leadership Brief  
Oil Platform Explosion – Gulf of Mexico  
1200 EDT 26 Apr 10  
[Updates in bold blue](#)

Secretary of Homeland Security Priorities:

- Provide support to all affected State and local, Tribal, and private sector partners as required.
- [Proceed with](#) and coordinate investigations.

## Current Situation

- Odor reported along Gulf Coast states.
- Attempts to actuate blowout preventer valve (BOP) via Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) ineffective due to a hydraulic leak on the valve.
- ROV surfacing to retool for repairs of hydraulic valve; round trip to surface, retooling and return to BOP expected to take 6 hours.
- Forecasted diminishing winds & seas next 3 days are conducive to dispersant application & oil skimming operations.

## Authorities

- Homeland Security Presidential Directive-5 (HSPD-5).
- National Contingency Plan (NCP).
- Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA 90).
- National Response Framework (NRF).

## Command and Control

- National Response Team (NRT).
- Federal On-Scene Coordinator (FOSC): Rear Admiral Landry, USCG, Commander, District 8 (New Orleans, LA).
- Responsible Party (RP): British Petroleum (BP).

## Federal Agencies/Departments

- US Coast Guard (USCG)
  - 2 Drill ships ENTERPRISE (ETA 29 Apr) and DDIII (ETA 27 Apr) en route.
  - 1 ROV ship (SKANDI NEPTUNE) and 2 survey vessels en route.
  - No projected port closures or boom deployments at this time.
  - 12,804 gallons of dispersant applied by 5 sorties on 25 APR; 14,654 gallons of dispersant applied to date.
  - 43,499 gallons of dispersant available within 24 hours; 51,810 gallons available within 48-72 hours.
  - Boom staged in Venice, LA, Biloxi, MS, and Pensacola, FL.
  - 65,940 ft of various boom types available; 57,000 ft on order.
  - Estimated discharge rate is 64,000-110,000 barrels/day if well completely blows out.
  - ROVs, surface vessels, and aircraft monitoring changes to plume and sheen.
  - Cutters COHO and SEAHAWK enforcing a 500-meter marine safety zone.
  - Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit (MODU) was in final phases of drilling; no normal output/production rates established.
  - Of the 37,513 wells in the Gulf of Mexico, 403 drilled to a depth of 5,000 ft or more.
  - 14 MODU rigs are working at depths of 5,000 ft or more; operations of 5,000 ft or more require ROVs.
  - The first well drilled to 5,000 ft or more was in 1986.
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

- Weather forecast for MODU area:
  - 26 Apr: West winds 15-20 knots; seas 4-5 ft.
  - 27 Apr: West winds 5 knots, turning northeast 15-20 knots; seas 3-4 ft.
  - 28 Apr: Northeast winds 5-10 knots; seas 1-3 ft.
  - 29 Apr: Southeast winds 15-20 knots; seas 3 ft, building to 4-5 ft.
  - 30 Apr: Southeast winds 15-20 knots; seas 6-8 ft.
- Department of the Interior (DOI)
  - Joint investigative efforts continue with USCG.
  - Planning for long-term interventions if ROV valve procedure is unsuccessful.
  - ROV status:
    - 2 monitoring BOP and riser.
    - 2 monitoring riser and drill pipe to observe changes during actuation.
    - 1 standing by to survey pipeline near MODU (weather permitting).

#### Critical Infrastructure Key Resources (CIKR)

- National Infrastructure Coordinating Center (NICC)
  - Protective Security Advisors from Louisiana, Alabama, and Mississippi are monitoring the situation and forwarding updates from USCG and Louisiana Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness.
  - Continues to monitor and report on the situation.
- Homeland Infrastructure and Risk Analysis Center (HITRAC)
  - Distributed updated infrastructure assessment based on worse-case scenario.

#### State and Local Agencies

- Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida communicating daily with DHS.

#### National Operations Center

- Current Posture: Phase 1 – Awareness.
- The next SLB is scheduled for 1200 EDT 27 Apr.



Senior Leadership Brief Oil Platform Explosion - Gulf of Mexico (1200 EDT 26 Apr 10).docx